been fixed. BICP is able to recommend the prices of bulk drugs only after the concerned manufacturers have made available the cost data for cost-cum-technical study.

(c) Fixation/revision of prices is an on going process and the prices of the drugs involved would be fixed as early as possible, BICP is also regularly remainded to expedite their findings

Study for increase in conversion cost and packaging charges

1333 SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state.

(a) what were the names of the companies which were studied by Shankaran Committee for the purpose of recommending increase in conversion cost and packaging charges;

(b) what is the year to which this study relates and what were the conversion costs and packaging charges for these companies in question based on the norms and what were the actual conversion cost and packaging charges of each company during that year,

(c) what were the expenses included in the conversion costs and packaging charges and whether their details were furnished by the concerned companies,

(d) what was the percentage increase allowed on conversion and packaging charges based on Shankaran Committee recommendation,

(e) whether it is a fact that increase is not uniform for all pack sizes and all types of formulations viz, liquid, tablets, capsules and injections, and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken for extensive study?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Shankaran Committee called for the data from 35 companies, however, on the basis of availability of requisite information data from sixteen companies was considered. Data studied was for the years 1985-86 and 1986-87. The names of companies and the comparison between data furnished by them and norms is given at Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No 33]

(c) Companies were asked to furnish information like wages, consumables utilities etc included in the conversion cost and packing charges These details were utilised to the extent available

(d) The Committee recommended implementation of revised norms in parts. Hence, only 50 per cent of recommended increase has been allowed uniformly

(e) The increase for various types of formulations varies from dosage form to dosage form because of difference in inputs going into those dosage forms

(f) Presently, BICP has been asked to undertake a fresh study

Treatment Centres for Mentally Retarded Persons

1334 SHRI B K. HARIPRASAD Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether a neurological disorder The Rett Syndronio is mentally handicapped is now widely recognised and if so, estimated numbers of sufferers in India,

(b) whether any treatment centres have been set up to met the challenge and

(c) whether NGOs such as Samadhan, New Delhi will be involved in carrying out survey and establishment of treatment centres in the country?